



# News Release

Public Affairs and Corporate Communications Office  
Space & Naval Warfare Systems Command  
4301 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92110  
Telephone: 619-524-3470 Fax: 619-524-3469

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## SPAWAR To Donate Excess Computers to Area Schools

SAN DIEGO -- The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command will deliver 15 excess IBM-compatible computers Monday to Olympic View Elementary School in Chula Vista to help the school set up its computer network.

Olympic View, located in South Bay's Eastlake development near the Olympic training facility, is one of 17 local educational institutions to benefit from SPAWAR's overall donation of approximately 600 pieces of excess computer equipment.

Other recipients include: Anza Elementary School (22 computers), Greenfield Middle School (50 computers), Mount Miguel High School (30 computers), Kennedy Elementary School (50 computers), San Diego Public Schools adult division (15 computers), Harriet Tubman Elementary School (15 computers), Bethune Elementary School (40 computers), Southwest High School (35 computers), Army ROTC (10 computers), Twin Peaks Middle School (15 computers), Fremont Elementary School (20 computers), Christian Unified School District (17 computers), Center for Child Protection (60 computers), Rio Ceci School (25 computers), Sierra Madre Academy (20 computers) and University of San Diego High School (30 computers).

We're thrilled, said Dr. Susan Mahler, Olympic View principal. With no budget for computer equipment, the school relies heavily on donations from private and public sources. Having grown from 200 to 868 students in the last three years, the school is very much in need of computers to help both students and teachers keep up with technology.

SPAWAR's donation will help the school meet its immediate goal of providing at least two computers per classroom, she said. The school has an enthusiastic volunteer tech committee with expertise to maintain these computers and tend to software problems.

SPAWAR's inventory of excess equipment accumulated as newer units, able to handle current software programs, were installed following the command's move to San Diego from Washington, D.C. The excess equipment includes computers, monitors, printers and system components, such as modems, disk drives and laptops. Although some of the computers are up to 10 years old, many schools welcome this equipment for basic computer training and word processing.

We had a dedicated group of volunteers to make this happen, said Doris D. Walker, a computer specialist at SPAWAR who, along with Henry Nguyen, Logistics Specialist, coordinated the project's hard working volunteers from Grossmont College, Naval Reserve unit SSC SD 619 commanded by CDR Fred Beavers, and SPAWAR. Volunteers tested and repaired the computers before they were made available for donation. Notice of the availability of the computers was spread to area schools through a teacher network, she said.

SPAWAR is authorized to donate equipment as a result of an Executive Order signed by President Clinton in 1996 that encourages Federal agencies to transfer excess computers to nonprofit educational organizations. The computers are held for a minimum of thirty days to determine if any government agency has a need for the equipment before it is donated to interested schools.

# Media Advisory for Assignment Editors:

News media representatives interested in covering the delivery of this equipment to the school are asked to contact either Mr. Richard Williamson, SPAWAR Public Affairs, at 524-3432, or Dr. Susan Mahler, Olympic View Elementary School principal, at 656-2030.

The SPAWAR Web site is located at: <http://www.spawar.navy.mil/>

The Olympic View Elementary School Web site is located at:  
<http://intergate.cvesd.k12.ca.us/olympicview/welcome.htm>